

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

1860 LINCOLN STREET

DENVER. COLORADO 80203

June 13, 1978

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U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY/STATE OF UTAH

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE IS TO STATE EPA'S INTENTION TO ISSUE A WASTEWATER DISCHARGE PERMIT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT OF 1977, AND THE INTENTION OF THE STATE OF UTAH TO CERTIFY COMPLIANCE OF THE APPLICANT WITH APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE AFORESAID ACT.

IT IS EPA'S INTENTION TO ISSUE A PERMIT TO ONE (1) INDUSTRIAL DISCHARGER IN THE STATE OF UTAH.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT NAME:

ATLAS MINERALS

DIVISION OF ATLAS CORPORATION

DUNN MINE

MAILING ADDRESS:

2506 PRUDENTIAL PLAZA

1050 17TH STREET

DENVER, COLORADO 80265

FACILITY LOCATION:

BIG INDIAN MINES MOAB, UTAH 84532

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

303+534-8187

APPLICATION NUMBER:

UT-0023256

The facility proposed by Atlas Minerals consists of an underground uranium and vanadium mining operation which will produce 100 to 200 tons of ore per day. The mine discharge will average around 14,400 gallons per day with a Total Dissolved Solids level of 500 to 1,000 mg/l. The mine water will be treated in three clay lined ponds with the addition of barium chloride for the removal of Radium 226. The facility has been determined to be a new source and an environmental assessment has been prepared. The NEPA requirements for this new source will be handled concurrently with the NPDES permit process.

The discharge will flow to Bear Trap Canyon (classified Class "C"), a tributary to the Colorado River.

Class "C" waters are defined as being suitable for domestic supplies which are treated by coagulation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection. These waters shall be suitable without treatment for aesthetics, irrigation, stock watering, propagation of fish, other aquatic life and wildlife, recreation (except swimming) and industrial supplies.

The effluent limitations in this permit have been based on the following criteria:

- (1) Proposed New Source Performance Standards for Subpart E Uranium, Radium, and Vanadium Ores Subcategory (Federal Register, Volume 40, No. 215, November 6, 1975, page 51745), along with current Regional evaluation of New Source Performance for Uranium Mining;
- (2) Utah Water Quality Standards and Effluent Limitations; and,
- (3) Salinity controls in the Colorado River Basin States.

EPA/STATE TENTATIVE DETERMINATIONS

Tentative determinations have been made by the EPA staff in cooperation with the State of Utah relative to effluent limitations and other conditions to be imposed on the permit. These limitations and conditions will assure that State Water Quality Standards and applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act will be protected. The recommended expiration date for the permit is December 31, 1982.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments are invited anytime prior to July 13, 1978. Comments may be directed to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII, Enforcement Division, Permits Administration and Compliance Branch, 1860 Lincoln Street, Denver, Colorado 80295. All comments received prior to July 13, 1978, will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permit.

If no objections are received within the specified thirty-day period, the Regional Administrator, EPA, will issue final determinations within sixty days of the date of this notice. A public hearing will be held if response to this notice indicates significant public interest.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling 303+837-4901, or by writing to the aforementioned address.

The complete application, final permit, and related documents are available for review and reproduction at the aforementioned address.

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DENVER, COLORADO 80203

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